



I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Nancy L. Swanson

Marl 2, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

P. ARCANGEL and D. CHIEN

Confirmation No.:

7355

U.S. Application No.

10/658,782

Filing Date:

September 8, 2003

Group Art Unit:

1651

Examiner:

Unassigned

For:

HCV ASSAY

Mail Stop Missing Parts Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

BLANKET PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME AND AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE/CREDIT DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

Sir:

If a paper is untimely filed in the subject application by applicant or his representative and such paper is not accompanied by an effective petition for extension of time, the Assistant Commissioner is hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for the minimum extension of time required to make said

paper timely. In the event a petition for extension of time is made under the provisions of this paragraph the Assistant Commissioner is hereby requested to charge any fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)-(d) to Deposit Account No. 03-1664.

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees (or credit any overpayment) associated with this communication and which may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 03-1664.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

Marcella Lillis

Reg. No. 36,583

Date: February 1, 2004

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